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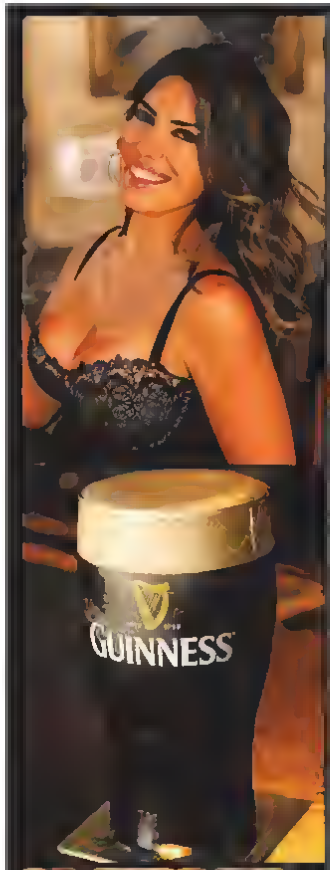

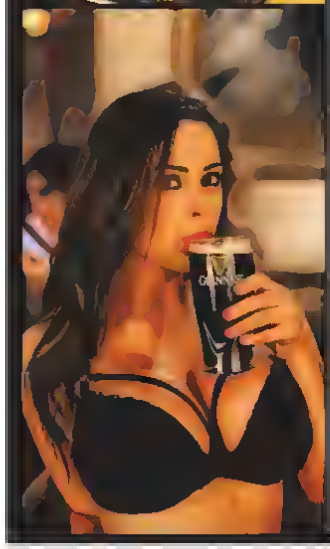

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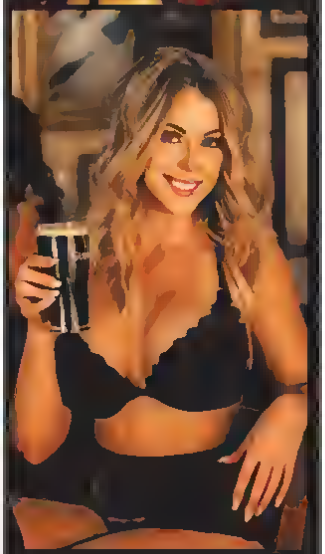

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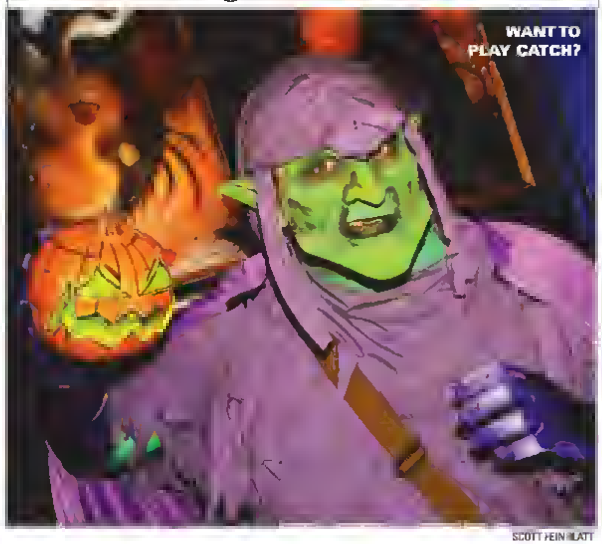

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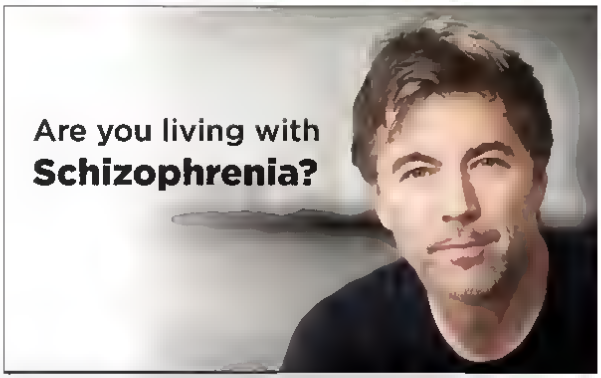

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Illustration by Bob Aul
Design by Michael Ziobrowski

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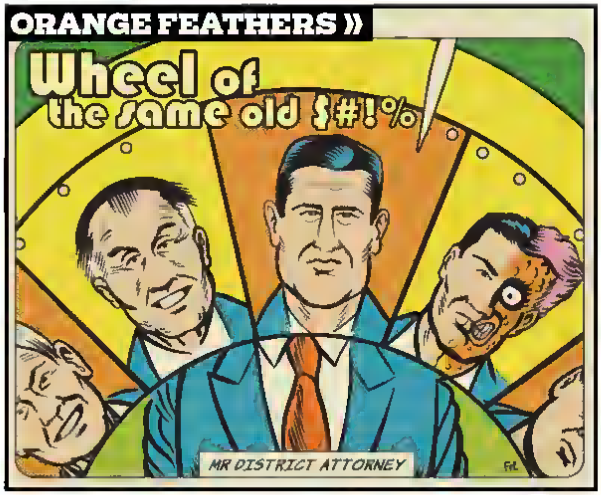

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"Thank goodness for Trump, or *OC Weekly* might not get any clicks. I only come here to view the Trump obsession."

—Peter Delayo, commenting on Matt Coker's March 28 A Clockwork Orange column, "Don't Be Like Mike"

We respond: Trump who? Like the article says, we made Michael Avenatti a Scariest Person of the year in 2018. Not even Donald Trump has that honor. We're obsessed with lots of bad people, not just the president.

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20 YEARS OF ANONYMOUS THANKS, CONFESSIONS & ACCUSATIONS

BY BOB AUL

It's been my dubious pleasure to illustrate the warts-'n'-all stories of OC life readers have been sending in for two decades now. They're tales of a sleepy, coastal farming area that suddenly got paved over by powerful interests and replaced with a dense, reassuring stucco grid punctuated by glass and steel monoliths, cut through with freeways, and injected with hurry—definitely an insecure upstart of a place, always comparing itself to its big, dirty, sprawling metropolitan neighbor up the road a bit, wrenched into a desperate and vain state of modernity and wealth without enough time to shuck its cowboy boots or the attitudes that filled them.

Hey, You! is the access hatch that reveals a sometimes-not-very-reassuring profile of the wide range of people dwelling in this pressure cooker, surrounding us everywhere, running loose with the verbal skills of a berserker on Red Bull—angry, explosive, inarticulate rants filled with vague threats and bile. There are stories of ire, offense, love, lust, impatient shoppers and abused food-service workers, revenge imagined or real, aggressive cyclists, theft, hit and run, and unwanted religious advances. There are bad bands, overamorous dogs, cheated musicians, lurkers, teenage PATRIOT Act violators, and a steady supply of road-rage scenarios, acts of heinous rudeness, dishonesty, infidelity, not to mention drug, verbal and animal abuse. Yet stories of redemption, touching personal encounters, and acts of human kindness and beauty have filled the column with nearly as much frequency—go figure.

Once-lengthy rants have now been shrunk to concise blurbs by the current economics of print media (still the main means of viewing by readers of this column), so I included with the following drawings synopses of their accompanying stories—or sometimes something pithy. These are the 20 or so finalists from nearly a thousand tales I've illustrated over 20 years, including three complete stories I contributed. I hope you like the drawings.

Hey, Ewww!

Not that we seek out or dwell on them, but Hey, You! has never been about avoiding particular issues or sugarcoating stories of the human condition. It's a broad, sociological slice, folks. Thus we've had life's more, well, organic, sometimes icky, creepy moments submitted to us over the years. Here are a few slides from that particular and, oddly experientially unifying petri dish.

There was the pub crawler who mistook an Italian restaurant for just another place to get puking drunk, ruining the experience (and clothing) of a guy who only wanted a good dinner

One person wrote in about a surreal encounter with the notorious Pedobear roaming OC's back-alley nightspots.

A slightly fed-up reader sent a message warning of the unsavory hygiene habits of the chef at the favorite bistro of an annoying food snob

There was shock, disbelief and revulsion upon discovering an already-read letter in French in one's mailbox.

Trapped. One guy lets one rip fragrantly outside his car after lunch, unaware until moments later there was another guy sitting in the car parked next to his in the garage; the window was partway down, and the air in those parts mighty still. This is from the victim's perspective.

A guy imaginarily threatened to gift his neighbor a giant *Close Encounters*-style Devil's Tower crafted from the volumes of poop left in his yard by said neighbor's dog

Animal Encounters

Let's hear it for our feathered, flippered, four-legged, taloned, scaly furry buddies (and sometimes not-so-much buddies). They're around us all the time, whether we're taking them for a walk or they're just watching us from the phone lines (crows know). Outside of maybe cars and traffic, animals factor into a story probably more than even cranky white conservatives (a breed once so thick in numbers they blotted out the sky as if passenger pigeons).

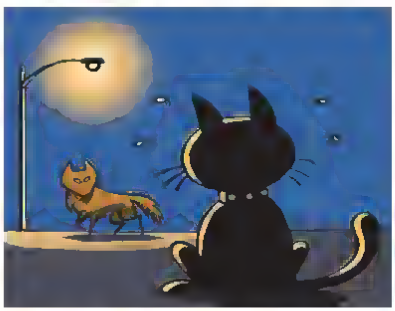
The poodle who set the smaller guy straight.

One reader wrote in about all the wildlife that lay flattened along a new stretch of toll road, just as he predicted

A fast-approaching, zombie raccoon had a reader beating it indoors even faster.

The dog who caused three family members hospital trips, yet the parents still opted to keep it.

The dog you wouldn't want anywhere near your leg



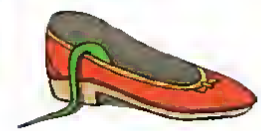
An encounter in the buffer zone between suburbia and the wild. The writer respectfully wishes the coyote well.

The young dolphin who amazed and thrilled beach-goers with high leaps, all the while keeping sharks away

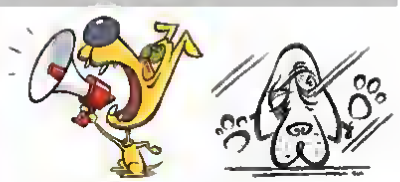
The hawk that demonstrated the best way to drive crows away is to eat one

The young possum who had a run-in with a reader's dog and got away by playing possum.

The two guys who halted traffic in Villa Park so a mama duck and her children could cross the road safely



Scaly



Victims of abuse and neglect.

A reader's reflection on and yogic appreciation for a lazing sea lion.

Weebs the pet weasel, accidentally laundered, departs this world of strife

The spider with a death wish

A meeting of hearts under fairly unusual, risky circumstances.

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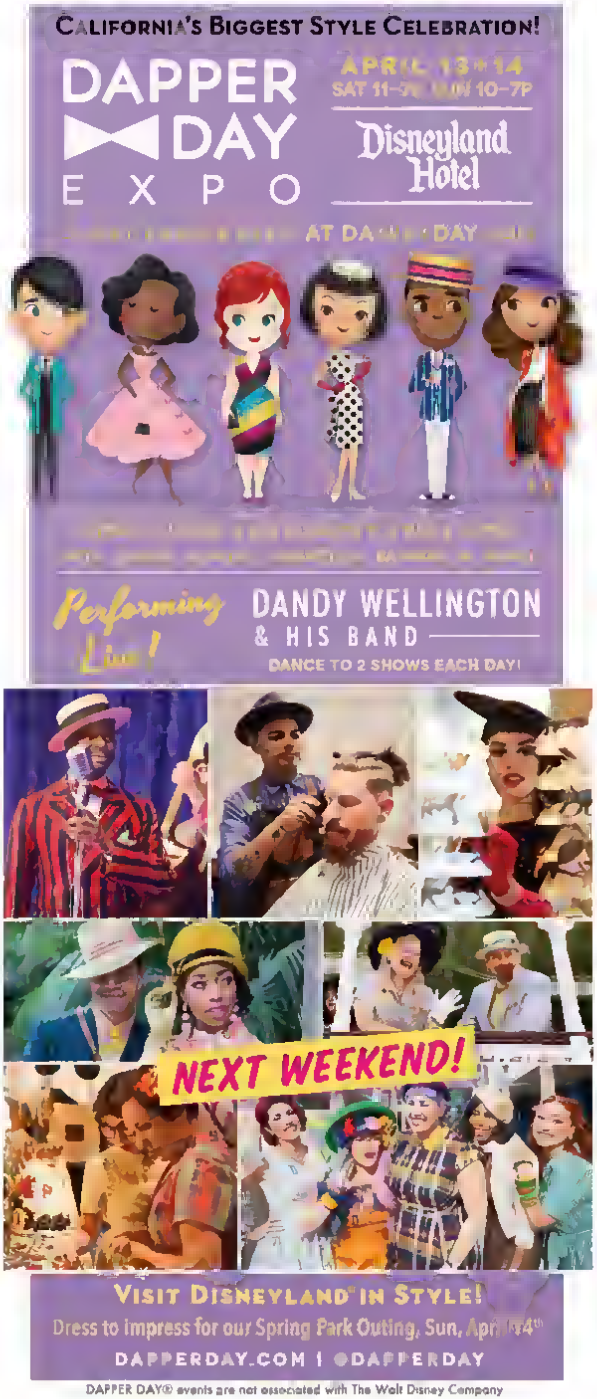
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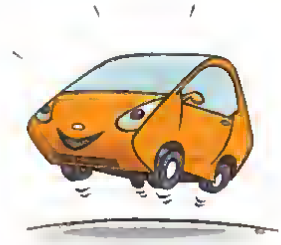
Hey, You!

» FROM PAGE 9

Cars & Traffic

Traffic is a heavily recurring theme. Road rage, cops, menacing tow trucks, parking issues, the eternal conflict between steel and spandex on PCH in Laguna and elsewhere—everything from grim realities such as hit-and-runs to heated debate over whether people should be allowed to nap in parked cars. After a while, it becomes a banal, hazardous constant: Our vehicles are extensions of ourselves, often at our worst.

The law does not see who has repeatedly driven like a schmuck before, only who drives like a schmuck right now.



A joyous orange Prius in the city of Orange is most pleased when someone leaves an orange sticker for it to wear.

A slightly out-of-shape cyclist barks safety commands at other cyclists while not having his own helmet fastened correctly. Hostile run-ins between cyclists and drivers are numerous.

Some poor dude couldn't even take a nap parked by the side of the road without some nosy do-gooder waking him up, resulting in multiple rebuttals!

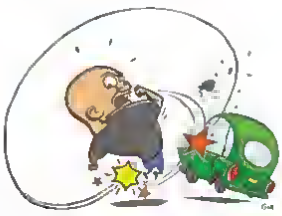
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS & THANKS

Editor-in-chief Nick Schou had been suggesting for years that we do a Hey, You! book — or exhibit — or something. We finally sat down last June and decided we'd do a special issue. Over the course of six months, I embarked on a brain-busting sort of archaeological dig through a few hundred boxes containing an unruly mess of print back issues, stacks of clattery CD-ROMS and hard drives containing any number of obsolete or incompatible layout formats. From there, 947 available columns were unearthed, from which 300 were chosen, then whittled down a couple of times to get to the roughly 20 or so items that fill this issue. And certainly more is left over to spill into digital realms in the future.

Thanks and appreciation are due to Nick for instigating the move to realize this project and keeping a steady eye on its progress, while thanks also go to art director Michael Ziobrowski for his eye and expertise in assembling all this stuff and making it look good on the pages you're reading right now, including the cover. Thanks also to Cynthia Rebolledo, Patty Marsters, Mercedes Del Real, Lisa Black and Duncan McIntosh for your combined support and assistance, as well as everyone near the big Xerox machine for putting up with the ceaseless scanning during the archiving process. My gratitude to past editors Will Swaim (he started it) and Gustavo Arellano, as well as past art directors Heather Swaim, Laila Derakhshanian, Dustin Ames and Richie Beckman, all of whom were instrumental in keeping this column alive and well.

Payback, Karma & Revenge

We get a large amount of tales about people in desperate need of some comeuppance. Amusing, imaginative and unrealizable curses abound. Karma is evoked every 3.25 issues—and for good reason. Sometimes the payback potential is real, probable and almost certainly waiting just beyond the end of the story. Occasionally and deliciously, it happens within the story. But usually, it winds down to a lot of wishful thinking and fodder for cartoonists.



A guy used his fist to randomly destroy a car mirror. No word on whether he was apprehended, but a trail of blood drops leading into the distance suggests he received at least the first installment of his payback plan instantaneously.

A holiday curse issued by the recipient of some bad business.

Two white dudes spouting derogatory comments about Hispanics in downtown Santa Ana turn a corner and meet ... some large Hispanics!

Payback was swift for a bro who smashed a window with his bare hand on the Peninsula. Of course, loudly bragging about it and bleeding profusely from the hand were factors in him getting nabbed, too, but he wouldn't have gotten caught if he hadn't done it first.

Revenge can come in many flavors. There are more than a few ways a food-service employee might add a "special ingredient" to a customer's order if that customer happens to be a pain in the ass.

A valet's wish for some non-handicapped yacht-club members who swiped a handicapped spot he was saving for someone who truly needed it.

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» BOB AUL

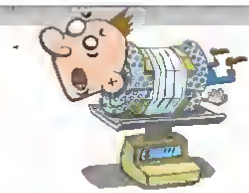
Christmas Sushi

It was really nice to see your sushi place near the Newport pier still open and brightly lit on Christmas Eve, when it seemed the whole town was otherwise already dark and closed-up. I'd been craving sushi all day, so I made a beeline there. You guys welcomed me in and took my order, which came almost immediately, as I was the only person there at first. I still had a nearly full [illegible] usually like to have with the meal. When your server checked on me later, I was already slowing down, but she convinced me to go for the sake I was missing—it was Christmas, after all, she said cheerfully. I finished the last few pieces of sashimi along with that sake—it really was the perfect touch. When the bill came, she told me the sake was on the house! It was Christmas, she said again. [illegible] renewed faith in humanity . . . not to mention glowing-red ears from the sake. I sure hope the tip I left reflected my appreciation for your kindness. Thanks again!

Brasshole

You're the talkative old fella who sat down next to me at the Tustin Kean Coffee and started a conversation by declaring, "You know the only people who don't bus their own tables? Liberals." After a brief headspin, I replied amiably, "Well, I don't see how that holds much water, since I tend to lean in that direction and am pretty good about cleaning up after myself." When your first statement didn't seem to have the desired effect on me, you simply soldiered on with an anti-Obama screed that only someone with a FOX-rich diet could regurgitate. Since you appear in about the 75-to-80-year-old age bracket, I tried engaging you on a few different matters just to determine if you weren't just senile or maybe insane, but it seemed as though you were still pretty current. You even had an iPhone on which you would periodically play speeches by leading right-wing players to whomever was in earshot. Turns out you own some brass-technology company in town, and the only thing that matters to you apparently is the money the president is supposedly trying to take from you. It must be nice to approach life with such a streamlined set of concerns. So stuff it, Mr. Brass Technology man. I will be sure to not sit anywhere near you in the future, but thanks all the same for the crucial glimpse into the self-righteous mind of an industrialist.

Big Box Blunder



This wasn't the first time I've had to ask a professional to stop the job I asked them to do, but when you took the small, unreinforced art print I just wanted to have securely packaged to ship overseas and stuffed it without any backing into a nebulous wad of bubble wrap sandwiched between two bent scraps of cardboard smaller than the actual print, and then wound several yards of plastic around it from a spool on a handle, I started having my concerns. When you slipped the assembly into a flimsy paper OHL box, weighed all fractions of a pound of it and informed me shipping would come to $127, I asked you to unpack everything and instead bought a cardboard box from you for less than $4. I went home and cut it down to the flat and sturdy package I thought you'd know how to make (and without all the needless plastic waste you generated) and shipped it via the U.S. Postal Service for $104 less than what you quoted and only about $5 more than I guessed. With expertise like that, it's a wonder you've stayed in business for so many years.

HEY, YOU! Send anonymous thanks, confessions or accusations—changing or deleting the names of the guilty and innocent—to "Hey, You!" c/o *OC Weekly*, 18475 Bandilier Circle, Fountain Valley, CA 92708, or email us at letters@ocweekly.com.

GARDENAMP EVENTS

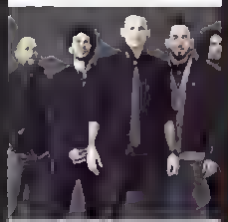
APRIL 3RD

THE SHAKES +MORE TBA

APRIL 5TH

TSOL, LOWER CLASS BRATS, THE SIDE EYES, LOVE CANAL, VULTURAS

APRIL 6TH



TRIBUTES TO LINKIN PARK, THE KILLERS, FALL OUT BOY, PARAMORE

APRIL 12TH

PLANET MOON FEST | HOT FLASH HEAT WAVE PLUS MORE (FREE SHOW)

APRIL 13TH

NAKED AGGRESSION, TOXIC ENERGY + MORE

APRIL 20TH

NUMBSKULL PRESENTS PAGENINETYNINE

APRIL 26TH

FOLIAGE, THE PANTONES, CATHEDRA BELLS +MORE

APRIL 27TH

SKULLCRACK RECORD RELEASE

APRIL 27TH

TRIBUTE TO DEPECHE MODE, NEW ORDER, +MORE

MAY 4TH

TRIBUTE TO SELENA

MAY 18TH

DRAMARAMA

MAY 19TH

VEGAN SPRING FLING (VEGAN FOOD FEST)

JUNE 23RD

WARPEDAPALOOZA 90S VS Y2K

JUNE 28TH

THROUGH THE ROOTS

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MATTHEW MURPHY

fri/04/05

[FAMILY EVENTS]

Find Us There
Long Beach County Fair

Fair season is upon us! This Friday evening, Long Beach kicks off its annual County Fair presented by the First Fridays group. There are all kinds of locally sourced, family-friendly activities to enjoy, including pie-eating contests, interactive storytelling, tea parties and s'mores-making, even a blue-ribbon fruit and vegetable competition. Plus, there are sustainability orgs offering planet-saving information, local chefs doing chef-y stuff, and local artists hawking paintings and such. And in true Long Beach fashion, there's tons of live music, among the performers are Feather River Band, the Killer West, Windy Ridge Bluegrass Band and the Nectarines.

Long Beach County Fair at Expo Arts Center, 4321 Atlantic Ave., Long Beach, www.bixbyknollsmfo.com. 6:30 p.m. Free; food and activities sold separately. —ERIN DEWITT

[COMPETITIONS]

REV IT UP
Huntington Beach Moto Surf & Freeride

Head to the pier this weekend for some epic watersport racing as the Huntington Beach Moto Surf & Freeride exhibition makes a splash. Over two whole days, crowds can watch the fearless freeride and freestyle racers take to their watercraft vehicles and improvise stunning tricks and aerial maneuvers. The event will also feature qualifying racers for the International Jet Sports Boating Association (IJSBA) World Finals, which is also round 1 of the Best of the West series. All race and freeride participants are professionals sanctioned by the IJSBA and should absolutely not be imitated by anyone else with their own Jet Ski or dinghy at home.

Second Annual Huntington Beach Moto Surf & Freeride at Huntington Beach Pier, 400 Pacific Coast Hwy., Huntington Beach; www.rpmracingent.com. 8 a.m.; also Sat. Free. —AIMEE MURILLO

sat/04/06

[BENEFITS]

A Party for All
Mardi Gras for Autism

While the timing of this event may not be the same as that of the "official" Mardi Gras, a.k.a. Fat Tuesday, the Mardi Gras for Autism doesn't necessitate a trip to New Orleans. Organized by Fullerton Cares Autism Foundation, this carnival will feature live music, dancers, jugglers, stilt walkers, face painting, balloon twisters, *Star Wars* characters, a large sensory zone, dozens of autism-related vendors and more. The foundation has spent nearly a decade providing resources and entertainment for families with and without disabilities.

MORE » ONLINE
OCWEEKLY.COM

Mardi Gras for Autism at Fullerton Train Depot Center, 110 E. Commonwealth Ave., Fullerton, (714) 213-8831, www.fullertoncares.com. 11 a.m. Free. —SCOTT FEINBLATT

[FESTIVALS]

HORROR BUSINESS
Spook Show

The Halloween Club's Seventh Annual Spook Show materializes in Santa Fe Springs this weekend, featuring more than 130 curated local vendors, artists, collectors, teachers, spook-makers, "spookipreneurs" and musicians who've gathered to entertain and sell their wares to kindred spirits. This outdoor event supports small businesses and the local community while allowing ghoul, gore and gangrene enthusiasts to share their madness over the macabre. So, grab your hoods, hooves and headless lady friends and join your fellow midnight freaks for a delightful day of doom!

Spook Show at Halloween Club, 14447 Firestone Blvd., Santa Fe Springs, (714) 367-0859; www.halloweenclub.com/Spook-Show. Noon. Free. —SR DAVIES

sun/04/07

[THEATER]

Open for Laughs

Door Play: An Unscripted Farce

Who knows what the brave, talented thespians at the tiny if intrepid Modjeska Playhouse will create in their unscripted production of *Door Play*. This two-act audience-suggestion-inspired dramatic romp is built on lots of entrances and exits and fast-paced, funny and farcical vignettes à la the comedic tradition of *Noises Off*. The Modjeska Unscripted Theater cast promises physical humor, wit, outlandish plots and the rewarding experience of enjoying other people's embarrassment, vulnerability and human frailty. Enjoy mildly sadistic good fun by professionals in an intimate Lake Forest playhouse.

Door Play: An Unscripted Farce at Modjeska Playhouse, 21084 Bake Pkwy., Ste. 104, Lake Forest, (949) 445-3674, www.mphstage.org/tickets. 5 p.m. $28. —ANDREW TONKOVICH

[FOOD & DRINK]

Stay Thirsty

Sabroso Craft Beer, Taco & Music Festival

The ultimate taco-and-craft-beer crawl returns! Enjoy today's headliners the Offspring and the Descendents, while *lucha libre* wrestlers take to the cage, where reigning champ and onscreen villain from *Nacha Libre*, Cesar Gonzales, will try to protect his title as King of the Ring. Among the brewing companies providing unlimited are Docent, Artifex and Stereo, and plenty of carbo-loaded food trucks will be on-hand to satisfy all of your cravings.

Sabroso Craft Beer, Taco & Music Festival at Doheny State Beach, 25300 Dana Point Harbor Dr., Dana Point, (949) 496-6171, sabrosotacofest.com. 1 p.m.; VIP, noon. $59.50–$89.50, children 7 and younger, free. —LAUREN GALVAN

mon/04/08

[CONCERT]

Bring Your Shawty

T-Pain

For well more than a decade, T-Pain has been serenading the masses with his AutoTune-heavy slow jams, mostly heard at high-school proms and late-night clubs around the world. Though some fans argue he reached his artistic peak with 2009's "Can't Believe It," in which he managed to rhyme *mansion* with the cleverly misspelled *Wiscansin*, T-Pain has recently proved that his voice is just as pristine without pitch-correction techniques. Pay attention to his natural vocal finesse the next time you're singing along to "I'm in Luv (Wit a Stripper)."

T-Pain with Abby Jasmine at the Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; www.observatoryoc.com. 8 p.m. $30–$300. —STEVE DONOFRIO

tue/04/09

[THEATER]

Kitty Cabaret

Cats

When the day's hustle and bustle is done, purr over to the Segerstrom Center to bask in the glory of a Broadway legend *Cats*, the record-breaking musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber, is now on tour across North America. Winner of seven Tony Awards, the trippy show follows a tribe of alley cats as they commence their annual moonlight ball. In addition to familiar musical numbers and characters you've loved for years, this version of the play includes new moves by *Hamilton* choreographer Andy Blankenbuehler and light design by *Aladdin*'s Natasha Katz, promising a *Cats* for a new generation.

Cats at the Segerstrom Center, 600 Town Center Dr., Costa Mesa, (714) 556-2787, www.scfta.org. 7:30 p.m. Through April 14. $29–$144. —MORGAN EDWARDS

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wed/04/10

[FILM]

MEOW-O-VISION

Cat Video Fest

You can't envy the task faced by the people who managed to take one of the most fundamental components of the internet—petabytes upon petabytes of cats in action, with emphasis on the *pat* and probably the *bite*, too—and cut it into a tight 70 minutes. But the Cat Video Fest came together with preternatural discipline, vision and commitment, and the result is basically the *Voyager* golden records of cat videos: "Who were these people, and why did they so value cat videos?" aliens or possibly far-future cockroach people might ask, and the answer to those questions and more is within Cat Video Fest, which concentrates the complicated character of cats so potently that even the ancient Egyptians might be impressed. Plus, portions of the proceeds go to the mobile/local/cat-cafe-on-wheels Moon Cat Cafe, which will be present at the screening.

Cat Video Fest 2019 at the Frida Cinema, 305 E. Fourth St., Ste. 100, Santa Ana, (714) 285-9422, thefridacinema.org. 7:30 p.m.; also Thurs., April 11. $7-$10. —CHRIS ZIEGLER

[NIGHTLIFE]

Diamonds, Pearls, and Funk!

Rick James vs. Prince Night

It's time to get your "Super Freak" on and party like it's 1999 (or 2019, depending on how old you are). Tonight's record-spinning theme at Continental Room is Rick James vs. Prince, and as confirmed by James' book, *Glow*, these two superstars almost got into a fight in 1982 over Prince refusing James' mom an autograph. While these genre-bending artists are no longer with us, we can all agree their music is unforgettable, iconic and will instill in everyone the urge to let loose on the dance floor to some funk, soul, and R&B. So slip into that purple silk shirt and/or lace up those high-heeled boots, and come represent the icon you dig the most.

MORE ONLINE
OCWEEKLY.COM

Rick James vs. Prince Night at the Continental Room, 115 W. Santa Fe Ave., Fullerton, (714) 526-4529, www.facebook.com/continentalroom. 9 p.m. Free. 21+. —LILA SHAKTI

thu/04/11

MARIANO REGIDOR

[CONCERT]

APOCALYPSE DREAMS

Tame Impala

One of the last-minute, undoubtedly surprising additions to the Coachella lineup was its Saturday-night headliner, Tame Impala. Known for their fuzzy mix of psychedelic and prog rock, this Australian band have been working their way up the festival ladder to get to this spot. But with their latest single, "Patience," as woozy as you'd hope from the group, it's clear Kevin Parker and company aren't ready to pat themselves on the back just yet. If you can't make it out to the desert, have no fear: Tame Impala's warmup gig at the Fox will provide the same thrill and spills, albeit in a cozier, dustless environment.

Tame Impala at FoxTheater Pomona, 301 S. Garey Ave., Pomona, (909) 784-3677, www.foxpomona.com. 8 p.m. $49.50-$99. —WYOMING REYNOLDS

[THEATER]

Up In the Air

Catch Me If You Can

Adapted from the shockingly underrated film, which is based on an amazing true story, *Catch Me If You Can* follows con artist Frank Abagnale Jr. as he bounces from one identity to another—including as various Pan American World Airways pilots in the 1960s—while being pursued by a persistent FBI agent. Encountering numerous beautiful women along his journey, Abagnale makes one incredible turn after another in this brightly colored, humor-filled production, which has earned Tony nominations for Best Musical and Best Sound Design. The talented Musical Theater West brings the show to the Carpenter Performing Arts Center.

Catch Me If You Can at Carpenter Performing Arts Center, 6200 E. Atherton St., Long Beach, (562) 985-7000, musical.org. 8 p.m. Through April 14. $20-$62. —AIMEE MURILLO

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EDWIN GOEI

Spice Level Up

Shaanxi-cuisine specialist Qin West Noodle opens in an unlikely place

BY EDWIN GOEI

Alongside the cramped driveway of the Plaza Condominiums—one of Irvine's towering mixed-use urban developments—wasn't where I expected to find an unapologetically authentic Shaanxi-cuisine specialist, but there it stood, in the shadow of the high-rise. It's a sign of the times that Qin West Noodle decided to open here instead of at the more established Chinese business centers anchored by 99 Ranch Markets on the other side of town.

When more people look down at their phones than up at buildings, street visibility is less important than online word-of-mouth. It helps that Qin West Noodle is already well-known to the Southern California Chinese diaspora. With locations in Chinatown, Arcadia and Westwood, it has established a reputation as one of LA's true ambassadors of Shaanxi dishes.

Despite being hidden in this labyrinth of concrete and glass whose only sign on the street still has the name of the Persian place that Qin West Noodle replaced, the restaurant is doing great. On the day of my visit, the customers first came in a trickle. But then, as the clock ticked closer to noon, there was a deluge. It was so busy that when one customer asked me if I was still using my jar of flaked chile oil, he already had his hands on it before I could answer.

Some were students from UC Irvine, but other patrons were office dwellers from nearby tech companies who yearned for flavors they can't get at Panda Express—or even the nearest Cantonese dim sum house. Outside the sphere of LA's San Gabriel Valley, Shaanxi food is a rarity. At my count, Irvine only has about two other restaurants that feature dishes characteristic of the province. Since it's from a landlocked region in northwestern China, Shaanxi cuisine is all about noodles, with lots of pork, beef and mutton. You won't discover much seafood on the menu, but you will find bread and dumplings.

One of the best things you can order at Qin West Noodle is the roujiamo, which is basically a Shaanxi-style Sloppy Joe. The restaurant simply calls it "mo" and offers it with either pork or spicy beef. The pork is succulent and salty, a thrilling hash of fat and meat stewed for hours in a master sauce of star anise, ginger and other spices. The beef is so heavy with cumin you smell it before you taste it. Both are crammed inside a split-apart, crispy flatbread shell akin to a Venezuelan arepa. And when you eat one, you wonder where it has been all your life and when it might someday replace the Big Mac at the nearest drive thru.

Qin West Noodle also makes decent pork-filled dumplings. But as good as they are—with thick skins and crisped brown bottoms of proper potstickers—they aren't much different from the gyozas you can get anywhere. It's best to save room for the noodles.

There are eight noodle dishes in all, varying in price from $7.95 to $10.25. For some reason, the restaurant chooses to serve them—and even the soups—in oversized disposable containers instead of real bowls.

The meatless liangpi consists of tape-wide belts of handmade rice noodle (not unlike the kind used for Thai pad see ew), blanched bean sprouts, julienned cucumbers and crushed peanuts. Its predominant flavor of garlic and the numbing sensation of Sichuan peppercorn comes from a singular source: a drenching of red oil that coats the silken strands and slicks your lips.

If you order the Guilin soup, which is actually named for a city in the southern province of Guangxi, you will come face-to-face with a broth for the ages. As you slurp, you'll taste every pungent note of sour, salty, spicy, sweet, umami and herbal. With sliced beef shank so tender it rivals wet tissue paper, tart Chinese cabbage, crunchy lily flowers, bean-curd sheets, skin-on peanuts and bits of pickled green beans that have their raw snap intact, this is a bowl that's not lacking in interesting things to chew. And although the soup uses rice noodles rather than the wheat noodles more indicative of the north, the dish still has that unmistakable soulful funk of something from deep in the Mainland.

There's even a dry version of the soup, which is even better. And it's not just because it comes with a pot-stewed hard-boiled egg. Compared to the soup, the more concentrated sauce that lubricates the dry noodles wallops you with a bare-knuckled fist. Of course, it may have also been because I took a heaping spoon of flaked chile oil from the jar and mixed it into my bowl. I did so right before that other customer took the jar away. In retrospect, it's good that he did. If it were any hotter, I'd need medical attention—and I doubt the ambulance would find the place.

QIN WEST NOODLE
6200 Scholarship, Irvine, (949) 932-0466, qinwestnoodle.com. Open daily, 11 a.m.–9 p.m. Dishes, $3.95–$12.95. No alcohol.

WHAT THE ALE
» GREG NAGEL

New Meadery On the Trail

Mead is basically wine made from fermented honey and water. Although its origins date back to 7000 B.C., Honey Pot Meadery, which recently opened along Anaheim's La Palma Beer Trail, shows what the modern version can be like: fruity, complex and full of character. And the cider it makes is just as good.

I didn't expect my first taste there to be that of a mimosa, but the carafe of OJ Did it came with pulp fizzing on top. "This is our pineapple cider with fresh-squeezed tangelos," explains Alex Gonzales, owner/head mead maker. "We generally go with whatever citrus we get in—a couple of weeks ago, it was tangerines and two different types of mandarin [oranges]—then we'll blend that into our cider, which starts out at around 8.5 percent and will be down to around 5 percent ABV after the fruit."

Gonzales was then happy to answer some more questions.

OC WEEKLY: *Why a meadery?*

ALEX GONZALES: My first taste really blew me away.... I didn't know what it was or what to expect. The bouquet on it, the mouthfeel, the flavor.... It was all amazing. I tried to get more, and it turned out the place only made 104 bottles of it. I was already homebrewing, so I thought, "Why not mead?"

But you have cider, too.

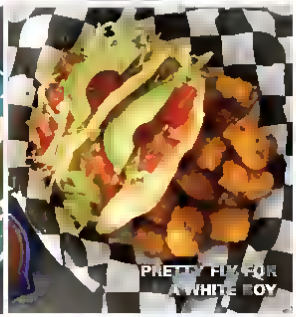
I've always liked cider, and [Honey Pot Meadery] being a winery, it's one of those luxuries that we can make anything that doesn't have any grain.

What are some challenges?

Beer has a tighter degree of consistency from batch to batch, and it's hard for some to understand that our product may change slightly.... Our mead uses orange blossom honey from California, but sometimes [that honey is] from San Joaquin Valley or sometimes as far north as Yosemite. Whatever the bees get into may affect the end result.

HONEY POT MEADERY
5120 E. La Palma Ave., Ste. 104, Anaheim, (714) 312-0911, honeypotmeadery.com

GREG NAGEL



PHOTOS BY ERIN DEWITT

No Matter What

Meant to Be Café brings comfort food to Long Beach

LONG BEACH LUNCH

» ERIN DEWITT

Just two months after Meant to Be Café opened on the corner of Broadway and Bonito, the tiny shop was met with disaster after disaster: vandalism, broken windows, flooding. There was no choice but to close the doors, with the promise of reopening soon. But after weeks, then months rolled by, neighborhood residents began to wonder if Meant to Be was really, well, meant to be.

But owners Josh and Pamela Batovsky were determined to not let their little café fold so easily. Plus, their first venture into the restaurant business is attached to their ethically sourced clothing-and-accessories boutique, Glow Getter.

Prior to Meant to Be, the address belonged for nearly two decades to the beloved Vintage Tea Leaf, a quaint tea-party restaurant. The Batovskys have kept that charming, homespun vibe. "We just love to cook and have always believed in home-cooked meals from scratch," Pamela says. "It's about spending time together over a meal and breaking bread together."

When Meant to Be Café finally held its grand reopening late last month, the neighborhood showed up in support.

The boho-sweetness of the boutique spilled over into the café to create a darling aesthetic, from the robin's-egg blue color scheme to the cheery signs and illustrations, from the cozy window nook to the perfectly placed throw pillows and candles.

Open early every day (6:30 a.m. during the week, 8 a.m. on weekends), Meant to Be serves breakfast comfort foods, baked goods courtesy of Los Alamitos' Katella Bakery, and artisan coffee and tea drinks. Come later in the day for sandwiches and salads—or even later on Friday nights for an open mic.

The waffles are freshly made and huge—as large as the plates they're served on! You get two pillowy soft and airy waffles per serving, sweetened only by whichever sugary toppings you choose: caramel banana, strawberry chocolate or traditional Belgian.

Order a plain ol' cup of drip and pick from house-made creamers in flavors such as cookie butter, hazelnut and creme brûlée. "Coffee is extra-important to us," says Pamela. "And after recently losing my grandma, who loved coffee and 'visiting,' as she would say, we had to find the best. We wanted to provide that comfort I felt over a cup of coffee with my grammy. I always left feeling loved and well."

You can go fancy and try the rose latte, a cup of hibiscus tea with rose water, coconut milk and honey. Or reset your system with the turmeric latte, which combines the spice with tea, almond, honey and cinnamon. There's also an organic lemonade sweetened with cotton candy.

One of the Batovskys' house specialties is called White Boy Tacos: two flash-fried flour tortillas heaped with seasoned, grass-fed ground beef, lettuce, tomatoes and a slice of avocado. "They're something we always made for our family," Josh says. "They loved them, but they'd always say it was like a white boy made them."

The dish comes with a mound of perfectly fried tots that are dusted in a savory seasoned salt.

Meant to Be's menu seems designed around warm family memories, and thanks to help from chef Joseph Sanchez, the rest of Long Beach can enjoy the Batovskys' homegrown traditions. "We have a good mix of items, all with influence from those important to us," Pamela explains.

Through floods and other disasters, Meant to Be's team remains resolute. "We've already been through so many bad things that can happen, all within our first year," Josh says. "It's going to be all good from here on out."

MEANT TO BE CAFE
969 E. Broadway, Long Beach, (562) 481-0876.

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PHOTOS BY GREG NAGEL

Unexpected Combinations

Touring Italy via Old Vine's tasting menus

While studying for my level-one wine certification, an interest in the old-vine wines of Italy was sparked. Their centuries-old, gnarled wood sent me down a rabbit hole. Not only did I want to try as many of these wines as possible, but I also damn near booked a trip to Italy. But, as it turns out, Costa Mesa's Old Vine Kitchen & Bar is much closer.

I'd probably strolled by its old spot a dozen times, but after 10 years, the Old Vine's roots were replanted next door. The larger location comes complete with a bright new bar and patio space, perfect for geeking out on wine, craft beer and classic cocktails. From the moment I walked through the door, it felt as if it pulled me in for a big warm hug.

Some Italian-centric menus focus on hard-to-pronounce, imported ingredients or pasta-heavy dishes. While Old Vine has all that, its hand-made-daily ropes of pasta aren't necessarily the focus. For dinner, there's seafood styled with Indonesian coconut curry, grilled lamb chops finished with a blueberry demi-glace and even a rabbit mole. Guided by chef/proprietor Mark McDonald's passport, the menu touches more than just Italy (though he offers guided tours via the Old Vine website).

In addition to small bites and dinner plates, Old Vine offers five separate tasting menus: original, vegetarian, vegan, Italian and premium. Whichever adventure you choose can be paired with wines with the help of sommelier/co-proprietor Kate Perry.

The vegan journey starts with a Mediterranean salad and Greek wine that plays off briny Kalamata olives and bamboo shoots, then dives right into an umami party with a plate of seared mushrooms. I've never seen liquids and solids paired so thoughtfully. On its own, the ultra-earthy Domaine La Manarine Le Carignan wine has notes of forest floor and is a 'shroomy trip on its own, but with such a umami dish, my palate was tripping balls the rest of the evening.

As a carnivore, it's hard to get excited about grains, but the third course's Indonesian curry pressed into a quinoa cake won me over. Was it the mushrooms causing a flashback, or does the dish have notes from the previous two courses? And it's all tied together perfectly with dessert: a house-made sorbet paired with a Ruby Porto. What a trip!

Eat & Drink This Now

» GREG NAGEL

OLD VINE KITCHEN & BAR
2937 Bristol St., Ste. A103, Costa Mesa,
(714) 545-1411, oldvinekitchenbar.com

PRETTY VACANT (IN PINK)

COURTESY OF LD ENTERTAINMENT & KLEECKER STREET

Fame Stinks

Teen Spirit tries to deconstruct the teen-idol mythos

BY AIMEE MURILLO

As a person who has studied media for the better part of her adult life, and as a citizen of the world, one of the most riveting lessons I've gleaned is that the pursuit for fame and human need for recognition is one that will never subside. Exhibit A is YouTube; Exhibit B is social media. And Exhibit C is the reality-competition television show. In the latter category, hordes of individuals put their talents up for review by the general public, and only a lucky few go on to fame and glory; the rest are, unfortunately, doomed to a future of relative anonymity.

It's not too clear what writer/director Max Minghella wants to say about this in his film *Teen Spirit*, but his attempt at exposing the singing-competition circuit is a noble one. Though Minghella pumps a frenetic, pop-heavy soundtrack into the film, the main character, Violet Valenski (Elle Fanning), sorely lacks any energy. Stoicly marching from one dreary interior to the next, Violet secretly dreams of singing professionally (as any teenaged girl would) and escaping the small, working-class Isle of Wight. She's extremely talented, but there's no *there* there to Violet except a good set of pipes.

She finds an unexpected mentor in Vlad (Zlatko Buric), a patron of the bar Violet occasionally sneaks away to sing in and who soon becomes Violet's manager. Vlad is a washed-up famous opera singer whose career demise is never fully explored, although we're to presume his current state as a barfly has something to do with it. Thus, we're thrust into the world of show biz through the young eyes of a girl who is the living embodiment of the phrase "If you stand for nothing, you'll fall for anything."

With Grimes' "Oblivion" acting as overture, *Teen Spirit* follows Violet as she balances school with her job as a waitress, she's working to help out her single, Polish-immigrant mother (Agnieszka Grochowska), with whom she resides on a farm off the coast of England. One day, Violet sees an ad for local auditions for an *X-Factor*-type singing competition called *Teen Spirit*. Since her mother frowns upon her singing outside of the church choir, Violet fakes an illness to get out of work and attend the auditions.

After singing Robyn's "Dancing On My Own" (Fanning provided her own vocal tracks for the film, and wow), Violet makes it to the next round, but as a teen, she needs an adult to sign off on her moving forward. She enlists Vlad to pose as her uncle, and he takes her on as a protegé, coaching Violet on vocal technique and range.

The higher Violet ascends in the competition, the more we're privy to the darker side of show biz, specifically its construction and marketing of teen idols. Embodying this is Keyan Spears (Ruairi O'Connor), the previous year's *Teen Spirit* winner who blew up as an angelic heartthrob but behind closed doors is a jaded fuckboy with designs on Violet and her rival, Roxy (Clara Rugaard). Also weighing in on the dark side is Rebecca Hall's perfectly coiffed *Teen Spirit* producer, Jules, who offers Violet a recording contract outside the competition—if she fires Vlad (more sinister Hall, *please*).

Without a doubt, what gives *Teen Spirit* its, well, spirit, are the scenes of Violet and Vlad's blossoming friendship, collaboration and conflict. Vlad is both comic relief and philosophical compass, so it's highly frustrating how little of his backstory is known or cared about. And since Violet seems too disaffected and incomplete a character without Vlad, their scenes together catapult us into drama and light-hearted humor. The meta scenes of the competition are strangely ominous, with shots of each contestant onstage performing bubblegum tunes in dark lighting (one boy band is singing a poppy cover of the Undertones classic "Teenage Kicks," which I loathed). Yet by film's end, Violet's triumphant fate is met with the same blank stare as her daily bus commute.

I wish I could at least enjoy the musical soundtrack, but even by my standards, it's way too dated—unless Isle of Wight teens are 10 to 20 years behind on musical trends. Tracks include Ellie Goulding's "Lights" and No Doubt's "Just a Girl"—which is a little too on the nose. *Teen Spirit* might just be one of those movies that aims for glittery style and has nothing new to say about the themes it's excavating, ensuring its likely descent into irrelevance and obscurity.

AMURILLO@OCWEEKLY.COM

TEEN SPIRIT

was written and directed by Max Minghella, and stars Elle Fanning, Agnieszka Grochowska and Zlatko Buric

Under Your Spell

BY MATT COKER

The Beach Bum. Moondog (Matthew McConaughey), a rebellious and lovable rogue, lives life large. *Various theaters; www.fandango.com. Thurs.-Thurs., April 4-11. Visit website for locations, show times and ticket prices; also at Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Fri.-Sat. & Mon. Thurs., April 11, 2, 4, 6 & 8 p.m., Sun., 2, 4, 6, 8 & 10 p.m. $7-$10.*

Loving Vincent + The Impossible Dream. It's a double feature with the first entirely oil-painted feature-length movie and a documentary about the decade-long, painstaking process of producing the 2017 drama about the final days of Vincent Van Gogh. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Thurs., April 4, 1, 4 & 7 p.m. $7-$10.*

Pee-Wee's Big Adventure. Tim Burtons 1985 cult classic has the eccentric man-child setting off on an adventure after someone snatches his beloved red, customized Schwinn (a.k.a. the greatest bicycle on Earth). *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Thurs., April 4, 2:30, 5:30 & 8 p.m., Sun., 5:30 & 8 p.m. $7-$10.*

***Mine vaganti* (*Loose Cannons*).** A college student in Rome goes home to southern Italy, where he is to tell his family he is gay. But his brother ruins his plans. *Regency San Juan Capistrano, (949) 661-3456. Thurs., April 4, 7 p.m. $10.*

The Rolling Stones Rock and Roll Circus. Filmed in December 1968, these would be the final live shows for Stones founder Brian Jones, who died within six months of filming. *Starlight Cinema City, (714) 970-6700; Starlight Triangle Cinemas, (714) 650-4300; starlightcinemas.com. Thurs., April 4, 7 p.m., Fri., 10:30 p.m. Call theaters for ticket prices.*

Transform. Marlon Berrot's movie is about her life and the LGBTQ community. *Art Theatre, 2025 E. Fourth St., Long Beach, (562) 436-5435; artheatrelongbeach.org. Thurs., April 4, 9 p.m. $7*

The Field Guide to Evil. In this 2018 horror anthology, an array of international filmmakers spin stories. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Thurs., April 4, 10 p.m. $7-$10.*

The Chaperone. Michael Engler's new drama, which *Downton Abbey* creator Julian Fellowes adapted from Laura Moriarty's book, stars Elizabeth McGovern as a teetotaler chaperoning a free-spirited young dancer (Haley Lu Richardson) from Kansas to New York City in the Roaring '20s. *Directors Cut Cinema at Regency Rancho Niguel, (949) 831-0446. Opens Fri. Call theater for show times and ticket prices.*

Diane. In Kent Jones' new drama, a woman (Mary Kay Place) checks in on sick friends, volunteers at her local soup kitchen and looks after a drug-addicted son. But her generosity and self-sacrifices hide an internal battle caused by her troubled past. *Directors Cut Cinema at Regency Rancho Niguel, (949) 831-0446. Opens Fri. Call theater for show times and ticket prices.*

Black Site. Elite fighters are forced by a supernatural entity to battle an army from another world. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Fri.-Sun., noon, Mon.-Tues., 10:30 p.m., Wed., 2:30, 5 & 10 p.m., Thurs., April 10-11, 2:30 & 5 p.m. $7-$10.*

The Wind. An unseen force terrorizes a young woman and a couple living on the remote American frontier in the 19th century. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Fri., 2, 4, 6 & 8 p.m., Sat., 11:59 p.m., Sun.-Thurs., April 11, 10 p.m. $7-$10.*

Zootopia. A rabbit cop tries to solve a missing-persons case in a city inhabited by anthropomorphic animals (Newport Coast?). Bring swimsuits, towels and your favorite inflatable to this family Flick n' Float screening, where there will also be music, games, crafts and a concession stand. *Sierra Recreation and Fitness Center (949) 859-4348. Fri., 6 p.m. $5, ages 5 and younger, free. RSVP highly recommended.*

A Star Is Born. Bradley Cooper, in his directorial debut, plays a seasoned musician who discovers and falls in love with a struggling artist (Lady Gaga). As her career takes off, he fights his inner demons. Bring blankets and low-height lawn chairs. Popcorn and valet parking are free, beer and wine are sold. *The Resort at Pelican Hill, (855) 315-8214. Fri., site opens, 7 p.m.; screening, 7:30 p.m. $20. 18+*

FILM DISTRICT

Senior Thesis Cycle 4 Film Screenings. These student films are scheduled to premiere, though not necessarily in this order: *A Slight Inconvenience; Grandma'd; Her Own Accord; Holy Water; The Legs of Chuck Watney;* and *Tribu in the Mix.* Titles are subject to change and the films are also live-streamed. *Chapman University; chapman.edu/dodge/. Fri., 7 p.m. Free*

Gummo. Residents of a tiny, tornado-raved Ohio town try to fill their boring, nihilistic lives. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Fri., 10 p.m.; Sat., 11:59 p.m. $7-$10.*

Stu. Danny Garcia focuses on Dead Boys and the Lords of the New Church front man Stu Bators. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Fri.-Sat., 10 p.m. $7-$10*

Howl's Moving Castle. After being turned into a 90-year-old woman by the vain and conniving Witch of the Waste, teenager Sophie embarks on a quest to lift the curse that takes her to mysterious wizard Howl's magical moving castle. *Various theaters; www.fathomevents.com. Sat., 12:55 p.m. (dubbed in English); Mon., 7 p.m. (English subtitles), Wed., 7 p.m. (dubbed). $12.50.*

OC Pride Closet Ball. Isabella Xochitl, Electra Kute and Alessandre Divine host the sixth-annual OC Pride fundraiser with all proceeds benefitting the "Stand Up. Stand Out" LGBT Pride Festival. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Sat., 7 p.m. $15, VIP $30; DIVA!, $50.*

The Rocky Horror Picture Show. Live shadow-cast troupe Midnight Insanity performs. *Art Theatre, artheatrelongbeach.org. Sat., 11:55 p.m. $9-$12.*

Bolshoi Ballet: *The Golden Age.* Beamed into theaters from Moscow is this ballet that is set during the Roaring '20s, when a young fisherman and a local gangster fall head over spats for a beautiful dancer. *Various theaters; www.fathomevents.com. Sun., 12:55 p.m. $16-$18; also at Regency South Coast Village, (714) 557-5701. Sun., 1:15 p.m.; Tues., 7 p.m. $14-$17.*

Bomb, a Love Story. Payman Maadi's 2018 rom-dram is set at the height of the 1988 Iran-Iraq War, with hope, love and affection managing to survive relentless bombing in Tehran. *Starlight Cinema City (714) 970-6700. Sun., 4 p.m. $10-$12.*

Drive. Nicolas Winding Refn's 2011 crime drama is about a Hollywood stuntman (Ryan Gosling) having second thoughts about moonlighting as a getaway driver for an underworld boss played by Mr. Albert Brooks. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Mon.-Tues., 2:30, 5:30 & 8 p.m. $7-$10.*

Noah. Despite impossible odds and the scrutiny of onlookers, Noah sets out to fulfill God's really specific command. *Various theaters; www.fathomevents.com. Tues., 2:30 & 6:30 p.m., Thurs., April 11, 6:30 p.m. $12.50.*

Our Bodies Our Doctors. Jan Haaken's documentary on what it means to be an abortion provider today is followed by a Q&A. *UC Irvine, (949) 824-6117. Wed., 5 p.m. Free*

The Longest Journey—The Movie. A family cycles 3,000 miles, 24 hours a day, from coast to coast, to raise awareness of the terminal Huntington's disease ravishing their matriarch. Light snacks and refreshments are served. *UCI, (949) 824-4530. Wed., 5:30 p.m. Free, but you must RSVP in advance to KThorburn49@yahoo.com.*

The Man Who Killed Don Quixote. Terry Gilliam's adventure fantasy finally comes to the big screen with a one-night-only event kicking off the theatrical run. *Various theaters; www.fathomevents.com. Wed., 7 p.m. $12.50.*

Cat Video Fest. It is exactly what the title suggests, partly benefitting Moon Cat Cafe. *The Frida Cinema, thefridacinema.org. Wed.-Thurs., April 11, 7:30 p.m. $7-$10.*

Spirited Away. Chihiro's mom and dad undergo a mysterious transformation before the girl is whisked into a world of fantastic spirits, shape-shifting dragons and a wicked witch. *Regency South Coast Village, (714) 557-5701. Wed., 7:30 p.m. $9.*

Ocean's 11. Danny Ocean (George Clooney) assembles a colorful crew to pull the ultimate Las Vegas job. You can bring food and drink to the screening, but no booze or it's lights out. *Fullerton Public Library, (714) 738-6327. Thurs., April 11, 1 p.m. Free.*

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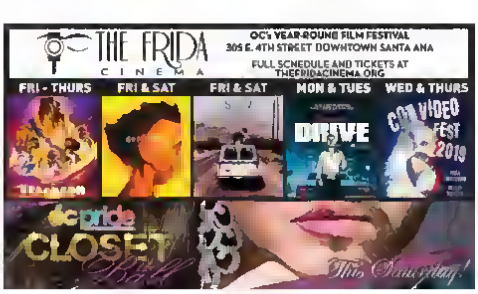

Coming Home

Veterans/actors explore the horrors of war and power of theater with *Twist, Pull, Smoke, Run-Motherfucker-Run!!*

BY JOEL BEERS

In its first 10 minutes or so, *Twist, Pull, Smoke, Run-Motherfucker-Run!!* doesn't seem any more authentic than any other play in which people jump onstage and pretend to be other people—like, uh, just about every play ever produced. The initial situation of bad communication threatening a couple's relationship seems well-trafficked. And the lopsided interest level of the dynamic doesn't help: He's a couple of years removed from the War in Afghanistan, wrestling with serious mental baggage, she's a New York City art student who, while admittedly starving and kind of conflicted, still says all the artsy stuff about artsy stuff being all artsy and serious and stuff. Only one of those is interesting.

But amid this scene of domestic intranquility, one key visual indicator suggests not all is what it seems, a hulky man dressed in military-looking garb sitting on a chair to the far left of the stage. His back toward the audience, he seems passed out, but occasionally, he seizes and spasms until he finally keels over and falls to the ground.

And no one notices. This touch of what one of the writers later calls magic realism becomes fully realized when the man springs to life and is revealed as the voice of our veteran's post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD): his Jiminy Cricket with a mouth like a Marine, one of his best friends, a fallen comrade and the part of himself that he must say goodbye to but needs to hang on to to keep from feeling truly alone.

That's when shit gets real, and being real is what this play is all about. Matthew Domenico, who plays our veteran, and Brock Joseph, who plays his Charon in reverse, are both veterans. Domenico served in the Marines from 2008 to 2011, and Joseph served in the U.S. Navy from 2004 to 2006. Both admit to having experienced PTSD-related symptoms for years after leaving the military, so they realize the need for fellow veterans to open up and share their stories. But they also understand how difficult that is for many. As theater practitioners, they know how powerful a medium the stage can be to tell those tales.

So why not merge the two? This play is the first of a four-part war series their fledgling Foxhole Theater Co. plans to stage to try to bridge the gap between veterans and civilians. They've found that veterans think only a fellow vet could understand or care about their stories and civilians think vets are closed off and anti-social or time bombs waiting to go off.

PAY NO ATTENTION TO THE MAN ON THE FLOOR

COURTESY OF MAVERICK THEATER

That is why collaboration between veterans and civilians is so integral to the process. Which brings us to the third member of the cast: civilian Katherine Connor Duff. Domenico and Duff collaborated on the script, with the goal of achieving something that helps both sides of the equation understand how important it is to not only open up, but also listen.

"There is already a huge divide between civilians and veterans," Duff says, based solely on knowing what military service is like. But that divide "adds to the isolation veterans already feel when returning home."

So many vets don't talk about their experiences and all the feelings associated with them, and for those who are struggling with PTSD, depression, or the "loneliness and boredom" that Joseph says all vets feel to some degree upon returning, it can lead some—such as the reportedly 22 veterans per day currently killing themselves across America—to contemplate the very real choice one of this play's characters considers.

It's what everyone involved in this production wants to avoid. And impressing upon both veterans and civilians the importance of communication is vital to their mission.

"It's not the VA that's going to help veterans," Duff says. "It's not the government. It's the civilians, the people who they come home to, who are going to help them. No one else."

This is the third production of the company's first play, following a successful debut at the LA Fringe Festival last year and a one-night performance at Golden West College in November. But Domenico has already heard enough to convince him it's worth continuing.

"To have someone come up after the show and say, 'Thank you. I think I'm finally ready to talk to my family,'" he says. "That already makes it all worth it."

TWIST, PULL, SMOKE, RUN MOTHERFUCKER-RUN!!
at the Maverick Theater, 110 E. Walnut, Fullerton, (714) 526-7070, mavericktheater.com. Fri.-Sat., 8 p.m., Sun., 8 p.m. $10-$20

ARTSOVERLOAD
» AIMEE MURILLO

April 5-11

"CREATIVE VISIONS" Visual art by local students from kindergarten through 12th grade. Open Thurs. April 4 & Tues. noon-8 p.m., Fri., noon-6 p.m., Sat., noon-5 p.m. Free. Huntington Beach Art Center, 538 Main St., Huntington Beach, (714) 374-1650, www.huntingtonbeachartcenter.org.

ART AT ARDEN This monthly group painting session is led by a professional artist. All levels are welcome; materials list provided upon registration. Fri., Sat., 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Free, registration required. Arden at Helena Modjeska Historic House and Gardens, 29042 Modjeska Canyon Rd., Silverado, (949) 923-2230, www.ocparks.com/historic/modjeska.

GENTLEMEN PREFER BLONDES: Huntington Beach Academy for the Performing Arts presents this comedic play about two young women traveling to Europe on their own in the 1920s. Fri.-Sat., 7:30 p.m., Sun., 2 p.m. $16-$22. Huntington Beach Union High School District Auditorium and Belltower, 1905 Main St., Huntington Beach, (714) 536-2514, www.hbapa.org.

OC PRIDE CLOSET BALL. First-time drag performers compete for the title of OC Pride's Ms. Closet Ball 2019, with proceeds benefiting this year's OC Pride event. Sat., 7 p.m., $15-$50. The Frida Cinema, 305 E. Fourth St., Santa Ana, (714) 285-9422, www.thefridacinema.org.

MAYUMANA: *CURRENTS* The international troupe combines dance, theater, music and percussion together for an immersive show. Sat., 7:30 p.m., $39-$99. Segerstrom Center for the Arts, 600 Town Center Dr., Costa Mesa, (714) 556-2787, www.scfta.org.

INTEGRATING AROMATHERAPY WITH THE POWER OF YOGA. A workshop on the possibilities of combining essential oils into daily living routines, followed by a restorative yoga session. Sun., 1:30-3 p.m. $30-$35. RA Yoga, 3077 Bristol St., Ste. A, Costa Mesa, (714) 708-3060, rayoga.com.

"RIBBA 5". An annual group exhibition with works submitted in the style of the standard IKEA picture frame. Up to 150 artists are included in this year's show. Open Tues.-Thurs., noon-4 p.m., and by appointment. Through Apr. 25. Free. Coastline Community College, 1515 Monrovia Ave., Newport Beach, www.coastline.edu/community/art-gallery.

CUCKOO TUESDAYS. Locals are invited to perform live music, spoken-word poetry, live art or performance art. Every Tues., 8 p.m.-midnight. Free. 21+. The Doll Hut, 107 S. Adams St., Anaheim, (562) 277-0075, www.worldfamousdollhut.com.

Hail to the King of Surf

Dick Dale's legend lives on via stories from the past

BY NATE JACKSON

Surf-music lovers will always revere Dick Dale as the King of Surf Music. To the band mates and musicians who were with him in the beginning, the waves of memories left by his passing carry the portrait of a true Orange County treasure. Here are a few of their stories.

FORVER TRIPPIN'

COURTESY OF DICK DALE / ILLUSTRATION BY MICHAEL ZIORROWSKI

STEVE ASCHOFF

Dale's longtime drummer

Bait-and-Switch Back Beat: "I'd barely turned 17 when Dick was playing at Harmony Park in late 1965. I used to go watch him every Friday night and bug him to sit in, and he [would say], 'Sorry, we have a set to do, and I don't really [need] anybody to sit in. You're kinda young anyway.' I came back every week and kept hugging him. So finally, my brother Chip, during one of their set breaks, called their drummer over and said, 'Hey, man, you want a couple of uppers so you can get wired and keep up with Dick?' and he says, 'Sure.' But they weren't actually uppers; they were downers. Halfway through the set, [the drummer] started dragging, and he fell right into his drum kit, and Dick turned around and looked at his hand and said, 'Damn, I need a new drummer right now!' So they all looked at me and said, 'Can you sit in?' And I stepped in and knew all the songs. He didn't hire me right away; he gave [the other drummer] another few weeks, and then called me up."

Deadly Drums: "He was a hard-driving rock & roller; he wouldn't take anything but perfection. ... After the first couple of times I played with him at Harmony Park, he came back to me [between songs] and told me to hit my drums harder, so after our break, we came back, and I hit the drums harder ... but he said, 'On the next song, I want you to pound those drums into the fucking floor!' So I turned my sticks upside down and started slamming 'em, and during the song, he turned around from the front of the stage and said, 'That's it!' I thought, 'Man, I'm gonna get killed in this hand. This guy's crazy!'"

Split Personality: "He wasn't a huge partier; he was a bit of a loner. He liked to stay home and watch TV, eat popcorn, ice cream and pizza, and hang out. He didn't do drugs, he didn't drink. When he stepped offstage, he turned into Richard Monsour. He wasn't crazy about performing. We were getting ready to go on at Harmony Park, and Dick goes, 'Man, I wish I was at home right now, watching TV.' His keyboard player at the time, Billy Barber, would get on him and say, 'You get up there right now and give these people the best show they've ever had!' And Dick would just laugh at him and go, 'All right, Billy, okay.' Once he got up there, it was like a switch turned on and suddenly he became Dick Dale."

PAUL JOHNSON

Surf-rock legend who founded the Bel-Airs, creator of the song "Mr. Moto"

Surf Music's First Wave: "My first time hearing his name was at Torrance Beach, and some of the surfers down there were asking, 'Hey, are we gonna go down to the Rendezvous and see Dick Dale this weekend?' They were talking about it like it was some kind of ritual. I said, 'Who's Dick Dale?' ... This was right as my band was looking for ways to get out there and play ourselves, right as the surf craze was hitting. I remember we went to see Dick and were impressed with his performance and thought, 'I wonder if we could get a little part of this for ourselves.'

"We staged our first dance for the South Bay crowd at the Knights of Columbus at the Hollywood Riviera, with a capacity of about 300. We handed out fliers around the beach, and hang' We filled the place, and we had three dances. We were remembering our visit to see Dick [and how] he had much more of a crowd in a bigger hall. But I remember the high point of that evening was that after we played, we took a break, and one of the local surfers came up to me and said, 'Wow, man, your music sounds just like it feels to be out on a wave—you oughta call it surf music.' This was the true birth of surf music, when the surfers themselves laid claim to it. I don't believe Dick or I had a conscious purpose of setting out to create a music to go with surfing."

RON EGLIT

Dale's bassist/lap-steel guitarist

Highlights of Hi-Tone Records: "A guy from the *San Francisco Chronicle* saw one of our shows, and his friend had a label called Hi-Tone Records in the early '90s, and we were signed within a week. We went up [to San Francisco] and recorded at Brilliant Studios and did a magical album called *Tribal Thunder*. Everything changed at that point. [The label] decided to put us out on the road. We were getting way younger people in the crowd. ... We were building a crowd in and bowling over Europe. [Dale] was a god in Germany and Amsterdam. ... We even played with Prince in Amsterdam on the same bill. It just escalated. That's when I started to see it was all young people. We were blazing at that point."

"Misirlou" in the Movies: "We were playing at a venue in New York, circa 1993, and Dick's then-wife Jill [Monsour] comes up to me before the show with a handwritten note and asks me, 'Do you know who this is?' The note said, 'This is Quentin Tarantino. I'd like to come backstage and meet Dick.' And I said, 'I don't know who that is,' and then she tore up the note. Later, I came back to LA, and I went to see [Tarantino's film] *Pulp Fiction* and heard the song 'Misirlou' in the opening credits. I was sitting in the fourth row, and I just got up and started screaming, 'Oh, my God!' I called Dick and said, '"Misirlou" is in a movie!' I don't know if it was because of a licensing deal that they didn't tell me about or if they really didn't know, but our lives changed for five years after that. I don't even know if Dick ever met Quentin, but Quentin said in later interviews that he wrote two major parts of the *Pulp Fiction* script while he was listening to 'Misirlou.'"

The Ghost of Jimi: "There's a legend that Jimi Hendrix used to come see Dick play at Harmony Park. [According to Dale's original bass player,] Jimi came a couple of times to watch him. Right before we did the *Peel Sessions* [on BBC Radio 1 in 2000], I told him, 'Ya know, Jimi Hendrix has a song called 'Third Stone From the Sun' where he says, 'You'll never hear surf music again'—because Dick had cancer. [Dale was diagnosed with rectal cancer in the '60s.] So we did [a cover] version of the song, and Dick said something funny in the recording, like, 'Jimi, I'm still here.' It was kind of his way of answering Hendrix. ... Afterward, me and the drummer were crying when [show host John] Peel told us that Hendrix recorded [Third Stone From the Sun'] where we did. We were just blown away."

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COURTESY OF RYAN CLARK

Career Shma-reer

Local comedian prefers passion over profits

ClockedIn
» BRAD LOGAN

Ryan Clark's chosen form of artistic expression normally involves making something out of nothing, on the spot, under bright lights, and usually in front of a group of people expecting him to make them laugh. He's a standup comedian who performs on weekends as a member of the troupe Improv Shmimprov, headquartered at the Maverick Theater in Fullerton.

But Clark is no stranger to an audience, hostile or otherwise. He cut his teeth as bassist for the hardcore band Homesick Abortions and many others before surrendering to a higher calling as court jester. He allowed me to pick his brain about comedy, jobs and living the dream.

OC WEEKLY: *Who are you, and why do you do what you do?*

RYAN CLARK: Hi, my name is Ryan Clark and I am an addict. I have an incurable craving for the approval and appreciation of audiences. It acts just like any other drug. It has ruined relationships, it has caused me to miss out on momentous occasions of friends and family. It has also cost me jobs. If I don't do some sort of performing for a while, I get noticeably irritable. Currently, I do comedy to get my fix. I honestly do think of it as less of a dream and more of an addiction.

Are you able to make a living off comedy? If not, what do you do to keep the lights on?

I've never really been able to make a living doing the things I love. There is still part of me that holds out for that to come true someday. I've had a gamut of jobs from white to blue collar. I've had stable income in the past, and those times of my life tend to be more depressing. I currently work at the Improv in Hollywood and will Uber on the side, which is depressing, but at least it's depressing on my terms. Truthfully, I'm much happier now, making the fraction of the money I was making before I decided to dedicate my life (mostly) to comedy. I sometimes think that making money is just a hobby for people who don't know what they want to do with their lives.

Do you ever notice a disconnect between the reality of being a comedian and what people see you as? Do you see the illusion as being an important part of the art?

The reality of pursuing one's passion is not the same as fantasizing about someone else who has done it. I remember being a kid and going to shows and thinking that the band up there playing had "made it" because they were playing at the Troubadour. Little did I know that the money they made off that show probably went right to making band shirts so they can sell enough shirts to one day make more shirts. I used to want to walk down the street and be recognized for my work. On a small level, I have done that, and it can be a cool feeling. But not when you are an Uber driver and you picked someone up who has come to a couple of your shows. Or not when it's a bank teller who is a fan of yours but can see that you only have about $30 in your bank account. I've achieved some incredible things that I can look back on and be proud of. But I don't ever think I'll think I've "made it." Because there is a curse of never being satisfied with your work as an artist. Any artist worth checking out probably hates their own work.

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5/10 RAUL MALO
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5/16 FOREVER ROD (Rod Stewart Tribute)
5/17 An Evening with COWBOY JUNKIES
5/16 THE 5TH DIMENSION
5/22 WILLIE K
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5/24 OINCO SOINGO FORMER MEMBERS
5/26 SLIND MELON
5/30 LITTLE RIVER BAND
5/31 YOUNG DUBLINERS
5/1 DESPERADO
6/2 SERPENTINE FIRE (Earth, Wind and Fire Tribute)
6/7 ASIA ft. JOHN PAYNE
6/8 BRETT DENNEN
6/11 JOHN PAUL WHITE
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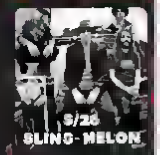

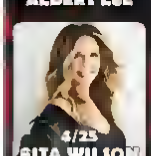

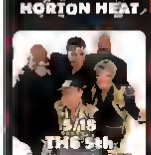

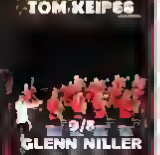

UPCOMING SHOWS

5/15	DSS	8/29	THUNDERBIRDS
9/16	REE GEES GOLD	8/30	SAVOY BROWN
6/21	CASH'D OUT		CINDERELLA'S TOM KEIFER
6/22	Y&T	9/6	SINBAD
6/23	An Evening with JOHN HIATT	9/8	GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA
6/26	CREED RRATTON	9/12	ADRIAN RELEW
7/6	REATLES vs STONES	9/20	HERMAN'R HERMITS
7/12	THE PETTY RREAKERS	9/21	HERMAN'S HERMITS
7/13	LDS LONELY RDYS	9/22	GARY PUCKETT
7/18	JEFFERSON RTARRHIP	9/27	QUEEN NATION
7/20	HINDER	9/28	QUEEN NATION
7/23	TED NUGENT	10/6	DON MCLEAN
7/24	TED NUGENT	10/11	DOKKEN
7/28	STRUNZ AND FARAH	10/13	JUDY COLLINS
8/3	NONK	10/24	TAB BENOIT
9/16	THE FABULOUS		

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JOHN GILHOOLEY

Friday

OILLY DALLY: 9 p.m. $15, all ages. The Constellation Room, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; www.observatoryoc.com

OSR—TRIBUTE TO JOURNEY: 7 p.m., $15, all ages. House of Blues at Anaheim GardeeWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583; www.houseofblues.com/anaheim.

MURS: 8 p.m., $15, all ages. The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; www.observatoryoc.com.

PLANET R; PRISSY WHIP; BIG FUN; THE GREAT SADNESS: 8 p.m., $10, 21+. Alexs Bar, 2913 E. Anaheim St., Long Beach, (562) 434-8292; www.alexsbar.com.

THE SUGAR; MESSIMER; KILO BRAVO, FILMSPEED: 8 p.m., $5, 21+. The Wayfarer, 843 W. 19th St., Costa Mesa, (949) 764-0033; www.wayfarercm.com.

TSOL; LOWER CLASS BRATS; THE SIDE EYES; LOVE CANAL; VULTURA: 6 p.m., $15, 21+. Garden Amp, 12762 Main St., Garden Grove, (949) 415-8544; gardenamp.com

Saturday

ANVIL; DON JAMIESON; ARCHER NATION; NO SMALL CHILDREN; KEVLAR: 8 p.m., $15, 21+. The Wayfarer, 843 W. 19th St., Costa Mesa, (949) 764-0033; www.wayfarercm.com.

FARTBARF; BELLA NOVELA: 8 p.m., $10, 21+. Alexs Bar, 2913 E. Anaheim St., Long Beach, (562) 434-8292; www.alexsbar.com

ROCK OUT THE 2000S: 5 p.m., $10, all ages. Garden Amp, 12762 Main St., Garden Grove, (949) 415-8544; gardenamp.com

SABROSO CRAFT BEER, TACO & MUSIC FESTIVAL, WITH FLOGGING MOLLY; BAD RELIGION; GOOD CHARLOTTE; LAGWAGON; STRUNG OUT; THE SUICIDE MACHINES; O.L.: noon, $49.50-$209.50, all ages. Doheny State Beach, 23500 Dana Point Harbor Dr., Dana Point; www.sabrosotacofest.com.

TREVOR HALL; XIUHTEZCATL: 7:30 p.m., $26, all ages. The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; www.observatoryoc.com

Sunday

JOHN S: 6:30 p.m., $20, all ages. House of Blues at Anaheim GardeeWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583; www.houseofblues.com/anaheim.

KOFFIN KATS; COFFIN OBAGGERS; BLACK ROSE PHANTOMS; JUNE CLIVAS & THE OITTY BOYS: 2 p.m., $12, $15. 21+. Alexs Bar, 2913 E. Anaheim St., Long Beach, (562) 434-8292; www.alexsbar.com.

SABROSO CRAFT BEER, TACO & MUSIC FESTIVAL, WITH THE OFFSPRING; OESCENDENTS; BLACK FLAG; FACE TO FACE; PLAGUE VENDOR; REO CITY RADIO; ORANGE BLOSSOM SPECIAL: noon, $49.50-$209.50, all ages. Doheny State Beach, 23500 Dana Point Harbor Dr., Dana Point; www.sabrosotacofest.com.

TIGER TIGER THE OUTTA SORTS; ELECTRIC CHILDREN; BLACKBALL BANDITS: 8 p.m., $8, 21+. Alexs Bar, 2913 E. Anaheim St., Long Beach, (562) 434-8292; www.alexsbar.com

Monday

T-PAIN; ABBY JASMINE: 8 p.m., $30-$300, all ages. The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; www.observatoryoc.com.

Tuesday

NEIGHBORHOOD BRATS; LAUNCHER; FREAKEES; CRANEO: 6 p.m., $10, all ages. Toxic Toast Theatre, 705 Pine Ave., Long Beach, (562) 999-2516; www.toxictoasttheatre.com.

Wednesday

ODG: 8 p.m., $15-$55, all ages. The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; www.observatoryoc.com.

FELLOW ROBOT; VAVA; BUTCH BASTARD; JANE ASTRONAUT: 8 p.m., free, 21+. Alexs Bar, 2913 E. Anaheim St., Long Beach, (562) 434-8292; www.alexsbar.com

PARMALEE: 7 p.m., $20, all ages. House of Blues at Anaheim GardeeWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583; www.houseofblues.com/anaheim.

Thursday, April 11

BIG BUSINESS; OUI: 8 p.m., $10-$12, 21+. Alexs Bar, 2913 E. Anaheim St., Long Beach, (562) 434-8292; www.alexsbar.com

JANINE: 8 p.m., $20-$60, all ages. The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; www.observatoryoc.com

JOSH ABBOTT BAND: 7 p.m., $13-$17, all ages. House of Blues at Anaheim GardenWalk, 400 W. Disney Way, Anaheim, (714) 778-2583; www.houseofblues.com/anaheim.

OLD SALT UNION; DUSTY GREEN BONES BAND: 8 p.m., $8, 21+. The Wayfarer, 843 W. 19th St., Costa Mesa, (949) 764-0033; www.wayfarercm.com

SMINO; EARTHGANG; PHOELIX: 8 p.m., $25-$90, all ages. The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana, (714) 957-0600; www.observatoryoc.com

Parts and Parting

I'm an adult man and I have developed a trans attraction after following a particular Tumblr blog. That blog is now gone, sadly since all adult content has been purged from Tumblr. It wasn't just porn, it consisted of all the things I really enjoy: images of oil paintings and antique furniture, scenic landscapes, wild animals, and pictures/gifs of trans women. Some women appeared to have had top surgery while others didn't. But all of the women featured on that blog had penises. I had never considered a relationship with a trans woman before, but after browsing the blog for a year, I can honestly say I'd do it in a heartbeat. I would actually like to date a non-op trans woman. I know that many trans women don't like having their male parts touched or acknowledged, but I didn't know that a trans woman can only have a functioning penis if she isn't taking female hormones, and I hadn't considered the effect that might have on somebody's gender dysphoria. How can I meet a trans woman who is hopefully comfortable with her male parts and seeking a relationship? I live in a conservative, Bible Belt state—Utah—and I am woefully uneducated on this subject.

Girl's Heart, Man's Pants

"My penis and balls aren't 'man's parts,'" said Bailey Jay, the three-time AVN Award-winning transsexual porn star. "They're *mine*. I own them. Not some random man."

In fairness, GHMP, you acknowledge being woefully uneducated on trans issues, something your letter demonstrated again and again. But let's start here: A trans woman doesn't have boy parts. She has girl parts—unique girl parts, as girl parts go, but girl parts just the same.

"I'm on hormones, and my cock works great," said Jay. "Every trans woman is going to be different and have different experiences, and that's the best first bit of advice I can give GHMP. We can smell it a mile away when we are all being lumped in together as a concept. Treat any trans woman you're romantically interested in as an *individual*."

As for places to find trans individuals who might be up for dating cis men, well, you might want to sit down, GHMP, as this is pretty shocking:

"I've heard OkCupid is inclusive, and I have friends on there whose profiles even help people navigate discussing their bodies in a respectful way," said Jay. "And finding a trans woman to date who hasn't undergone bottom surgery is pretty easy. The surgery is expensive and even scary to some. It's not terribly common that a trans woman has had that particular surgery."

But just because a trans woman hasn't had bottom surgery doesn't mean she doesn't want bottom surgery, so you shouldn't assume a trans woman with a penis plans to always keep her penis.

"The real question is what her relationship is with her current genitals," said Jay. "Maybe she's very dysphoric about them. Maybe she doesn't even want you to see them or touch them. Even if her body is *your* preference, there's a chance it isn't *hers*. I personally love my penis and even like talking about it. But bringing up genitals right away can make you seem insensitive or like you're dehumanizing your date."

Jay recommends looking for trans women on mainstream dating apps, then following their lead.

"Now genitals and curt sexual dialogue are kind of my jam," said Jay, "so I wouldn't even flinch or blush. But this can be a very charged subject for people."

Look to the profiles of trans women you're interested in for cues about their approach to personal subjects. One woman might put it all out there and welcome questions about her experiences as a trans woman; another woman might be open about being trans but prefer not to focus on it.

"Still, never use genital questions as an icebreaker," said Jay. "You'll know when you evening with someone is going well enough that there's a certain amount of trust," and at that point, you may be able to bring it up.

SavageLove

» DAN SAVAGE

"And please make sure to talk about *both* of your bodies," added Jay. "This isn't all about if her body is right for you. Make sure your body meets her standards and preferences, too. I always joke that cismen should have to disclose as well. Any expectation you find yourself putting on her, split the responsibility."

You can find Bailey Jay at her for-adults-only website TS-BaileyJay.com.

I'm a 36-year-old trans man in Portland, Oregon, and I've never been to a gay bar/venue while presenting male. I've only been once or twice years ago when straight friends went to watch drag shows and used the gays as entertainment. (Yeah, my old life was CIS HET as all fuck.) I have two questions: (1) I've heard a lot of stories about "gold star" gays who shame trans men and blacklist us. Any truth to that? Am I welcome in a gay space? (2) As someone who's never dated/hooked up within the gay male culture, any newbie tips? As for what I'm looking for, it's really just about feeling validated and comfortable being in a mens space. Sure, I'm horny as hell and would love nights full of hot anal sex, LOL, but I'm cool just starting with finding my swagger. I have an idea how my personality will develop around other guys. I have a puppy side, a pain-slut side, and a sadistic-top side—and I'm super-curious about exploring all my sides!

The Deep End

1. You are welcome in gay spaces—*of course*—but there are assholes in gay spaces just as there are assholes in every other kind of space. There may be fewer assholes as a percentage in gay spaces (untested hypothesis), TDE, but that doesn't make gay assholery any less aggravating. And yes, there are gay men out there who don't want to sleep with trans men. But there are gay men out there who don't want to sleep with tall men, short men, masculine men, femme men, big men, small men, vanilla men, kinky men and—yes—even cis men. Focusing on the guys who don't want to fuck you—whether they've never slept with a woman (gold star) or just slept with a woman (homoflexible)—is a waste of time and energy. Focus on the guys who do want to fuck you. They're out there.

2. All things in moderation (including moderation) don't fuck around with meth (or with guys who do), get on PrEP (to protect yourself from HIV), use condoms (to protect yourself from everything else), tip your bartenders, ask before you touch, and don't make the bars your whole life.

And finally, TDE, seeing as you're kinky: You might want to explore mixed kink clubs and spaces, online and off. In addition to gay bars. You'll encounter your fair share of assholes in kink spaces, of course, but kinksters—particularly kinksters in your hipper urban locales—are often more open to trans folks than vanilla types. (Tyler McCormick, a trans man, won the International Mr. Leather competition way way back in 2010.)

I've fallen into a social group of gay men who are kind of homophobic. They talk about bottoming and gayness as if they're embarrassing things. It's like they're aspiring to be gay people who are really heterosexuals but just accidentally have gay sex. The other challenge is that I find them attractive.

These Really Anti-Social Homos

Putting up with assholes just because they're hot—yeah, you're not doing yourself any favors there. TRASH, and you're not doing those assholes any favors, either. Sooner or later, they're going to age out of hot—and if they haven't learned the importance of not being assholes by that point, they're going to be lonely old assholes. Losing friends due to your assholery is an important learning experience for many. Don't cheat these guys of it.

On the Lovecast *(savagelovecast), Dan chats with sex-workers-rights advocate Kaytlin Bailey. Contact Dan via mail@savagelove.net, follow him on Twitter @fakedansavage, and visit ITMFA.org.*

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THURS. APRIL 25TH @ 7:15PM

This workshop is geared towards beginners who wish to explore the erotic options of light bondage play in a fun, sexy, and safe way. We will cover how to get started, safety and communication as well as introduce you to some basic toys and bondage items that you can use to enhance your play as well as tips and techniques to create the best experiences.

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Toke of the Week

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I don't understand conspiracies. Whether it's the Earth being flat, homosexual frogs, or Canada secretly being the source of 9/11, these theories only work if everyone involved keeps their mouth shut. The problem with that is nobody can keep a secret, and unfortunately, I am no different. That's why I'm writing about the stuff those fat cats in Congress don't want you to know about.

Growing what could be our favorite indica strain this year, 3C Farms has done some great work. Brilliant green clusters dripping in multiple shades of wild orange hairs will have you off your feet in no time, while the dense smoke smashes your palate into oblivion. The lineage of the Illuminati remains a mystery, but there's no conspiracy behind the flower's fast-acting ability to relax you.

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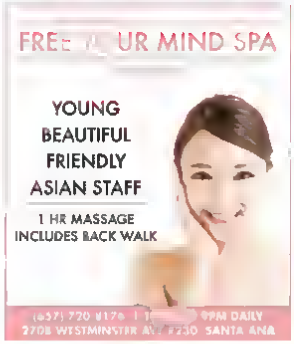
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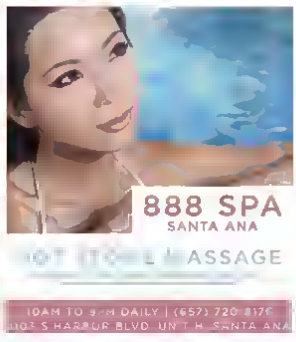
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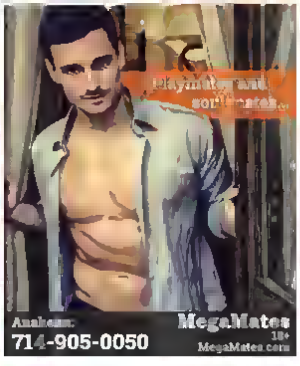
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Attorneys for Plaintiff

Chris Yamamoto
Third Judicial District, Canyon County
Clerk of the District Court
By: Christina Julian Deputy Clerk

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE
STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CANYON

KEDMA CAMPUZANO,
Plaintiff
vs.
VICTOR GONZALES CAMPUZANO,
Defendant.

Case No. CV14-19-00757
SUMMONS- PUBLICATION
VanderVelde, Davis

To: VICTOR GONZALES CAMPUZANO

You have been sued by KEDMA CAMPUZANO the Plaintiff, in the District Court in and for Canyon County Idaho Case No CV14-19-00757

The nature of the claim against you is for quiet title for the real property located at 81 Babbling Brook Way Nampa, Idaho 83651

Any time after 21 days following the last publication of this summons, the court may enter a judgment against you without further notice, unless prior to that time you have filed a written response on the proper form, including the Case No., and paid any required filing fee to the Clerk of the Court at 1115 Albany St., Caldwell, ID 83605 (208) 454-7552 and served a copy of your response on the Plaintiff's attorney at Capital City Law PLLP 1673 W. Shoreline Dr. Ste 140, Boise, Idaho 83702.

A copy of the Summons and Complaint can be obtained by contacting either the Clerk of the Court or the attorney for Plaintiff. If you wish legal assistance, you should immediately retain an attorney to advise you in this matter.

DATED: 3/14/2019 11 07 AM

CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT
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An Interview for the Ages

Remembering the time OC's wacky, conservative, talk-show host Wally George stood up to white supremacists

BY ALEXANDER HAMILTON CHERIN

With perhaps the exception of Bob Dornan, there has never been a more visceral embodiment of Orange County's conservative ethos than Wally George. Both accidentally poignant and intentionally brash, George spewed the essence of both the blue-collar Republicanism of the early 1980s and the brewing phenomenon known as reality TV. He did it well enough that every youngster within earshot of KDOC, the local station on which his show aired from 1983 to 1993, knew who he was. And they watched just long enough for him to boot guests off his stage with his trademark smirk and conservative indignation.

For those of us who grew up in Long Beach (which my childhood friend Chris Spencer once noted "is about as far north as you can live and still be cool"), *Hot Seat With Wally George* was a window into the political DNA of our neighbors to the south. With pictures of the Space Shuttle and John Wayne reverently displayed behind his desk, George, sporting a white wig, confronted progressives and kooks alike. From fringe political figures to adult-film actresses, George was the ringleader of a unique circus that played out weekly on late-night television.

With an audience of young, mostly white males who would incessantly jeer and heckle, the show seemingly carried the political water of Orange County voters who enjoyed confrontation over conciliation. It was one of the earliest talk shows to be referred to as "combative," and tickets to the live taping in Anaheim were coveted. *Hot Seat* mostly ran in the Saturday, 11 p.m. time slot, and after a decade of live shows, George, whose health was declining, instead hosted rerun segments until roughly June 2003.

Somewhat of a precursor to the likes of Jerry Springer and Geraldo Rivera, George will always hold a sacred place on the mantel of local television. And of all of George's guests, none was more striking than Tom Metzger. The self-anointed head of the "White Aryan Resistance" and a former Klansman, Metzger would appear periodically to espouse his beliefs about a coming race war, the inferiority of ethnic minorities and other provocative race-baiting that would send George and his audience into a frenzy. Metzger worked as a television repairman (which he proudly touted as a confirmation of his white, working-class credentials) and lived for a period of time in Fallbrook, which also seemingly helped his street cred.

Along with his son Tom Jr., the two would often appear on *Hot Seat* to share their ideologies and pontificate on why the United States would never elect an African-American president, a prediction that seems to have worked out well for Metzger. Introduced by George in some of his segments as a "putrid idiot," Metzger maintains an online presence today as a writer and host of the White Aryan Resistance (WAR) website and an internet radio series titled *Race and Reason*. He is also infamously known for his involvement in a 1988 lawsuit brought by the family of Ethiopian immigrant Mulugeta Seraw, who was attacked and killed in Oregon by a group of skinheads allegedly affiliated with or inspired by Metzger's WAR movement. The resulting judgment nearly bankrupted the organization.

What made those *Hot Seat* appearances by Metzger in the 1980s and '90s so relevant was just how clearly the lines between good and evil were drawn. George wore the white hat (literally), and Metzger was the bad guy; there was no gray to be found. And the audience reaction corroborated those roles. George's last interview with Metzger was around 1992, against the backdrop of that year's LA riots, and George absolutely laid into Metzger.

George repeatedly scolded Metzger for being "un-American" and referred to WAR as a bunch of "dumb Nazis." George kicked Metzger off his stage after an unprecedented but understandable four minutes. It was a proud moment for Orange County conservatism, as, embodied by George, it stood up to the emblematic scourge of white supremacy.

The last time George and Metzger would square off is jaw-dropping when viewed through the lens of today's political climate. With the benefit of 30-plus years of hindsight, that 1992 interview is proof positive the political paradigm of the right has completely been turned on its head in this era of Donald Trump. Viewed against the MAGA-inspired rally at Huntington Beach (see Frank John Tristan's "Huntington Beach Pro-Trump March Turns Into Attack on Anti-Trump Protesters, *OC Weekly*," March 26, 2017), the Republican landscape of a Wally George-era Orange County is, perhaps, unrecognizable.

Prescient of what occurred in Charlottesville and Trump's reaction to it, the 1992 interview with Metzger captured a moment in time when conservative Republicans rallied openly against white supremacy and the Nazis. Watching that episode, it is equal parts antiquated and Orwellian, with George orchestrating an audience full of young, mostly white, conservative, Orange County men in fomenting and rallying viciously *against* Metzger and what he stood for. To riff on Trump's own axiom, George made it clear there were not very fine people on both sides.

In a fitting end to the segment, George stood up behind his desk and led his audience in a recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance, with particular vocal emphasis on the last line: "with liberty and justice for all." He then expanded on that theme to his audience as he looked deploringly at Metzger, reminding him the phrase is meant to encompass "all races, all religions and all creeds."

George died in 2003, and his memorial service was held at the Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove. Congruent with his Orange County roots, he was eulogized by no less than the Reverend Robert Schuller. *Hot Seat* is now hard to find in reruns on local television, and YouTube videos are rare. But at one time, George was Orange County. And I can't believe I'm saying this, but I think the modern Republican party (and Trump followers in particular) could learn a thing or two about dignified conservatism from Wally George.

LETTERS@OCWEEKLY.COM

Alex Cherin is a lawyer and lobbyist based in Los Angeles. He resides in Long Beach.

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